

LISTING AND AMENDMENT OF THE CLAIMS

Claim 1. (Currently amended). Hydrogel which has a three dimensional crosslinked polymer network containing hydrophobic and hydrophilic components having entrapped in the three dimensional structure bioactive agent selected from the group consisting of ~~drugs or biologics of weight average molecular weight ranging from 200 to 1,000, macromolecules of weight average molecular weight ranging from 1,000 to 100,000 and~~ synthetic or natural polymers which are proteins or mixtures thereof ~~of weight average molecular weight ranging from 10,000 to 500,000~~, said hydrogel being formed by the free radical polymerization of a hydrogel-forming system which comprises from 0.01 to 99.99% by weight of (A) a hydrophobic macromer with unsaturated group terminated ends, and from 99.99 to 0.01% by weight of (B) a hydrophilic polymer which is a polysaccharide containing hydroxy groups which are reacted with unsaturated group introducing compound, the total of the percentages of (A) and (B) being 100%.

Claim 2. (Original) The hydrogel containing entrapped agent as claimed in Claim 1 where said agent is a therapeutic agent for treating, postponing or preventing disorder selected from the group consisting of coronary artery disease, inflammation, restenosis and stent rejection and is present in a therapeutically effective amount.

Claim 3. (Original) Vascular stent containing coating comprising the hydrogel containing entrapped agent as claimed in Claim 2.

Claim 4. (New) The hydrogel containing entrapped agent as claimed in Claim 1 where the protein is a synthetic polymer of weight average molecular weight ranging from 10,000 to 500,000.

Claim 5. (New) Surgical implant containing coating comprising the hydrogel containing entrapped agent as claimed in Claim 1.

Claim 6. (New) Surgical implant as claimed in Claim 5 where the surgical implant containing coating is a vascular stent containing said coating, said vascular stent containing said coating being for deployment after angioplasty.